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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, March 3, 2006

***GOVERNOR NAPOLITANO SIGNS HOMELAND SECURITY AGREEMENT  
WITH CALIFORNIA, NEW MEXICO AND TEXAS***

PHOENIX – Governor Napolitano has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Governors Schwarzenegger, Richardson and Perry that will enable the four southern border states – Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas – to share unclassified and, when necessary, classified intelligence information to provide better homeland security.

“The safety and security of citizens is of primary importance,” said Governor Napolitano. “By working together, the southern border states can better coordinate and strengthen security throughout the region.”

The four states are formalizing a cooperative relationship between the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC), the California State Terrorist Threat Assessment Center (STTAC), the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security, and the Texas Fusion Center (TFC).

Under the MOU, intelligence information will be shared on a routine basis and under special circumstances. The state intelligence fusion centers will conduct at least one joint exercise per year to assure that intelligence is being quickly and effectively shared.

Governor Napolitano opened the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center in May 2004 as the state’s central analysis hub for real-time crime and terrorism-related intelligence and information. Today the ACTIC is staffed with more than 200 detectives, special agents, analysts and other personnel representing 34 state, local and federal agencies. ACTIC was the first state fusion center to include complete integration of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF).

The agreement is valid for five years, and then may be renewed annually if all parties agree.

Arizona and New Mexico signed a similar agreement in 2004. The original agreement, however, did not cover classified intelligence.

A copy of the MOU is attached.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
Between  
THE STATE OF ARIZONA, THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,  
THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO and THE STATE OF TEXAS  
Regarding  
COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN INTELLIGENCE

The States of Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas (the “Southern Border States”) recognize and accept the critical role each plays in protecting their own citizens as well as all Americans from external threats, including public health and agricultural threats, and from crime generally.

All of the Southern Border States concur that intelligence information plays a vital role in evaluating threats and formulating appropriate responses, and in the value of cross-disciplinary sharing of information and training, as well as the need for close coordination between local, state and federal officials.

As a result, the Southern Border States have established, or propose to establish, centers to share unclassified and, when necessary, classified intelligence information between local, state and federal officials.

Further, the Southern Border States appreciate that the strong relationships they have developed with Mexico’s northern Border States may enhance this information-sharing and training so as to better protect both U.S. and Mexican citizens.

THEREFORE:

1. The Southern Border States hereby agree to establish a cooperative relationship among the Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC), the California State Terrorism Threat Assessment Center (STTAC), the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security, and the Texas Fusion Center (TFC).
2. As part of this cooperative relationship, officials from ACTIC, STTAC, the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security and TFC will establish protocols for sharing information, both on a routine basis and under special circumstances. The Homeland Security Advisors for each Southern Border State shall be responsible for developing these protocols not later than October 1, 2006.
3. In addition, ACTIC, STTAC, the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security and TFC agree to incorporate joint intelligence and operational aspects implemented under this MOU into state exercises, and each agree to endeavor to conduct at least one exercise per year to test intelligence flow and process. As appropriate, ACTIC, STTAC, the New Mexico Office of Homeland Security and TFC will invite other states to participate in these exercises as well.
4. The Homeland Security Advisors of each Southern Border State will review this MOU as needed, but at least on an annual basis, and make any appropriate changes by mutual written agreement of each party.

5. This MOU expires by its own terms five years from the date listed below, but is subject to renewal thereafter on an annual basis by the mutual written agreement of each party.
6. Any collection, storage, or dissemination of information under this MOU shall be in compliance with all applicable federal and State laws and regulations.
7. This MOU may be executed in any number of duplicate originals, photocopies or facsimiles, all of which (once each party has executed at least one such duplicate original, photocopy, or facsimile) will constitute one and the same document.

Agreed this 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2006.

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Janet Napolitano  
Governor, Arizona

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor, California

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Bill Richardson  
Governor, New Mexico

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Rick Perry  
Governor, Texas